Application No.: 09/773,944 Amendment dated: August 16, 2004 Reply to Office Action of 05-14-04 Attorney Docket No.: 1019.us

b.) Remarks

Claims 1, 3-17 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. New Claim 17 has been added.

Claim 1 describes moving the optical axis of the optical component along a path around the rest position and determining a direction of the desired position, which, in addition to the other claimed features, is not shown by the applied references. This feature is shown in the drawings in Fig. 2, for example.

Claim 6 describes finding a new desired position relative to a new rest position, if a level of the active signal detected while exerting the deformation force is less than the level of the active alignment signal when the optical component was at the desired position by a predetermined tolerance. Claim 11 requires spectrally analyzing the optical signal for side mode suppression and using the side mode suppression as the active alignment signal. These features are not shown by the references.

Applicant believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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